

Jay Hochberg
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Federal Election Commission
Office of General Counsel
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 5388

Sept. 19, 2003

To whom it may concern:

Please accept this letter as my response to the Commission's letter of Sept. 15, 2003 informing me that I may have violated the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 [see attached]. Thanks to that letter, I now understand that my contributions to the candidate in question should not have exceeded the \$1,000 maximum per campaign cycle, whereas I previously had thought a candidate for federal office during the Primary Election cycle could accept contributions toward his General Election campaign in advance. I'm not sure where I got that notion; perhaps that is how New Jersey election law works and I had assumed it applied to federal law also.

In other words, it had been my understanding that the candidate could accept contributions before his General Election campaign providing he held such funds in a separate account intended only for use during that General Election cycle. I'm probably not using the correct legal terminology here, but I do hope I'm explaining this well.

I have no plan to retain legal counsel in this matter, so I will not return the Statement of Designation of Counsel. I've been unemployed for 262 days and cannot possibly afford such an expense. Indeed it is my financial situation that caused me to think I should contact the FEC in the first place to explore the possibility of recouping the excessive contributions to Mr. Treffinger's two Primary Campaigns as neither had progressed to the General Election phase.

It is my hope that the Commission will find it unnecessary to either prosecute or fine me in this matter, but I can be reached at the above address in either event.

Cordially,



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